

John was born in Besserabia. His family were grain merchants. He received a high school education, which he says was about the equivalent of finishing the first year or two of a college course in the United States.

He went into the Army when he was eighteen years old as a private, and worked himself up to a lieutenantcy. He says that in the old Russian Army it was a common thing for high school graduates to rise from the ranks, as they were comparatively few and besides, had had the advantage of military training in school.

Just before the Russo-Japanese War, he resigned. He says it was partly to escape the war, and partly because he was tired of the army life and wanted to travel. His family was wealthy so he did not have to depend on the Army for a living.

He travelled for a year in Europe and the United States. Upon returning home he went into the grain business with a brother. He stayed there several years, but he had been very pleased with the United States and finally decided to go the States to live.

As he intended to continue in the grain business he located in a grain-producing state, Minnesota. He stayed there, except for a six months' visit to Russia, until 1912 and then moved to Oakland, California. Here he started a grocery store, running it until 1932, when he went broke. He had a good deal of his money invested in stocks, and lost it during the first part of the depression. He is

working on the S.E.R.A. now.

He has never married.

He is a small dark wiry looking man of about sixty-five. He is intelligent and seems to keep well informed on current topics. He says he reads a good deal.

He would not want to be in Besserabia under present conditions, but if it had not been taken away from Russia, he thinks he would like to go back.

He does not think that coming to America has made much change in him in culture, viewpoint, etc. He says his mode of life, aside from a few minor changes in food, etc. and the fact that he has been separated from his relatives, has been pretty much the same.

Nov 1901

Typed

Harold Thompson

12 hrs

John — was born in Bessarabia. His family were grain merchants. He received a high school education, which he says was about the equivalent of finishing the first year or two of a college course in the United States.

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He started a grocery store here and ran it until 1932, when he went broke. He had a good deal of his money invested in stocks, and lost it during the first part of the depression. He is working in Iran now. He has never married.

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Wendell Thompson -

1.22

A. Jackson

Types

Feb. 1, 1934.

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Miss Niculescu was born in
Bucarest the Capital of Roumania,
which is a beautiful city. One
long shopping street, known as Calea
Victoriei extends from the Promenade
to the river. The Palace and two
big hotels are situated on that
street. There are numerous shops,
which flaunt superfluities at
profitable prices.

Some of the Roumanians
who live in the larger cities are
rich and love to saunter in
the hotels and cafes at noon
and afternoon, drinking "Tonic"
and smoking - men and
women alike - against the plate-
glass windows, which reflect
both their own profiles and
the silhouettes of passers-by.
Street cars roll smoothly here on

rubber tyres, and the coachmen resplendent in blue velvet and scarlet sashes have a regal appearance. His is childishly simple. Ten o'clock later in the morning, and stroll towards the *Parc* at twelve.

Bucarest has several parks two are pretty and one alone is fashionable. This latter is the *Promenade*, a sort of a "Champs d'Élysées" but it leads out into the open country instead of towards the Bois. There lead all roads where motors travel, and here, towards evening and all Roumanian "perfect days." For the whole population of the town, drives or strolls in the sunset.

The hotels are primitive for a country which inclines instinctively towards display of luxury.

The house Miss M. dwelt in was very comfortable and they had two servants. She belonged to a family who enjoyed a good reputation. Her father was a highly intellectual man. He was a newspaper writer, and her mother was also an educated lady. Both of them tried to give their (6) children (2 girls and 4 boys) a good education. Her mother spent all of her time guiding and teaching them the meaning of honor, morality, cooperation as well as to see clearly the real interests and results of their deeds.

She Miss M. was the eldest of the girls. On her 12th birth day her dear father died suddenly and soon their troubles began.

The money the father left dwindled almost quickly.

Her mother, who was brought up in luxury, and during her marriage had had more than the necessary daily needs faced the situation discouragingly.

After a few years of struggle and loss, in Miss N's oldest brother (Léon) went to the United States. He remained in New York, where he got a position in a Bank as a foreign correspondent.

Leaving himself of almost everything, he saved up enough money to send a ticket for his sister.

Arriving in New York she met with nothing but reverses. She could not get an office position, as she expected to before leaving for the U. S. nor any other suitable position.

She therefore had to take a maid's job, which made her feel manifestly inferior in her own estimation. For several years she worked as hard as she could, going also to night school and having saved up some money she came out to San Francisco, hoping to ameliorate her situation. But to her great regret she met only with disappointments until last year 1933, when she got a position as Secretary with the B. O. O. and when that was discontinued she was transferred to another Federal position.

Last time I saw her she exclaimed: Nu'te pot spune căut de fericită sunt simt acum, și cauza este fiindcă fac lucrul care îmi place. Sunt mulțumită și mulțumirea este cauza fericirii. That means: I can't tell you how happy I am at present, and the cause of it is: I do the work I love to do. I am content and contentment is the basis of happiness.

Trinet 2, 1938

Report on a Roman ~~Travel~~ ^{Travel}

27

When in Bucharest Romanians of middle class people
is father was in the police force. Up to his (Dad)
he says that he remembers little of importance.
He went to private schools ^{and then} about (16)
then he ~~was~~ ^{not} going with friends ~~and~~
~~to~~ New Orleans. He made his way to California
and is now ~~in~~ ^a ~~hotel~~ as a cook.

His wife was born in Roesti of Hungarians and
Romanian parents. Her father was a family member
from the mother and in school she did some house
work. Always fond of housework she came here
as a housemaid. Nothing can induce her to go
back as she likes it here ~~even~~ much.
Her ~~story~~ ^{story} (I don't know). She is interesting that
things are better here and as she tells you
she often has remarks (for you (English 20th) as
much as I don't know, who knows.
She just is planning to visit Romania soon so
perhaps that's good luck to her. The parents are
not ~~but~~ ^{but} but father and mother do not
want to come here as to ~~the~~

The Leaves in transmission are not
to be used for specimens as the Leaves
transmission are about the only specimens
transmission specimens transmission specimens at the
station during school terms taking
about all of the Leaves.

Girls are very industrious.
Often you see specimens transmission specimens
all in transmission work. The girls
do very much embroidery in
white. Black, red, yellow and
many bright colors are used to
make necessary clothing transmission
linen (all is made in transmission
they wear in their transmission when
about one year old. All transmission is
washed transmission over the transmission
for transmission in transmission - also

Typed a 238

St. Paul, Pa. 1891
Autograph Exchange Residual List

In the city of Bayonne, New Jersey, there dwelt a family whose members were noted by everyone who knew them. These noted members of good and sufficient reason for envying them, had two of them were outstanding. The first reason was due to the fact that the head of that family, Mr. John Thomas, was a successful business man, and the second reason was due to the acknowledged good character and superior intelligence of the

members of that family.

The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. ~~Van~~^K two sons and two daughters; One of the sons, after finishing a Lyceum course ~~more~~ fifty years ago, a Lyceum course in Roumania was equivalent to a high school plus two years of a University course, in the United States, was sent to Munich, Germany, to study the art of portraiture; the other son was employed in his father's business which was known as an Apothecary.

The older daughter was given in marriage to one of her father's employees who occupied

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the position of book-keeper and cashier; ~~and~~ with that marriage went a large dowry. Shortly after the marriage, the young couple decided to establish themselves in a similar business to that of the young bride's father in another city. They selected for their future residence and business activity, a city known as Galatz and in due time they departed. Between the date of the young couple's marriage and the date of the opening^{of} their new business establishment some ten months elapsed. Being a new establishment amongst many older ones, the couple had hesitated

the entire dowry and they appealed to the bride's father for more financial assistance. This, the latter readily granted. But the longer the young couple remained in business, the worse became their financial conditions. One day the young husband told his wife that she must again appeal to her father for financial assistance and this she declined to do. Thereupon the husband gave his wife a terrible beating and threatened to leave her. Being a woman of refinement and good sense and knowing the stigma that people would

attach to herself, as well as the great grief that would befall upon her parents in the event that her husband left her, she yielded, and again, for the fourth time, appealed to her father for financial assistance. This process of begging his wife and threatening to leave her continued about three years. When the last appeal was made, the father confessed to his daughter and to his son-in-law that he could no longer advance them any money, for the reason that the heavy financial obligations he had reached to

Thomas exhausted his credit and
 virtually made him a bankrupt.
 The very next day the young son
 in-law disappeared.

Being grief-stricken at the
 turn matters took, the daughter
 told her father the reasons for
 her several appeals to him, and
 left everything to his own judge-
 ment. There was nothing else
 for the like grief-stricken father
 to do than to close up the establish-
 ment and take his daughter
 back. But Mr. ^{W.} ~~W.~~ was
 indeed a bankrupt, and not
 long after he took back his
 daughter and her one child,
 the creditors closed his business

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and a bankruptcy court disposed
of it. Thus, after a successful
business career during a period
of about thirty years, Mr ^K~~Ken~~
and his family were faced
by abject poverty, and aside
from the poverty, that ~~poor~~
family endured family were
grief and pains struck from
shame and humiliation.

To remain in Bergen
and struggle with poverty as
well as face old acquaintances
and friends, was out of the
question; therefore, after a
family consultation which
included a step-brother of
Mr ^{K's}~~Ken~~, it was decided

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that they should try to secure the necessary funds for their emigration to the United States. At that meeting Mr. ^{16's} ~~son~~ step-brother promised to secure for them the required sum. In about six weeks, the entire ^{16's} family left their birth place and native country for the friendly shores and melting-pot of this entire planet Earth, namely, the United States of America.

When they landed in the United States all of Mr. ^{16's} ~~children~~ children were of age and the youngest daughter was about twenty years of age.

The son who was a student at one of the Munich art schools, joined them at Berlin; and he was twenty-five years of age. The younger son was twenty-two years of age.

Shortly after arriving in the United States they all sought and secured some kind of employment, and Mr. ^KEin became a peddler.

After residing and working in New York City about one year the younger son went to Seattle where, in a very short time, he succeeded in establishing a furniture business which proved

successful from the very beginning. The elder son who had some talent as a portrait painter went to Hollywood and in a ~~very~~ short time, secured ~~an~~ employment as a scenic painter in one of the movie studios. With both sons in the West Mr. and Mrs. ^K~~Coon~~ did not feel very contented in New York City, and having saved some money, he decided to move to California. After conveying the information to his two sons of his decision, the elder son suggested

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were contented and happy
ever since they came to the
United States

Mr ^K ~~Com~~ left survivors
him, his wife, the ~~two~~ sons and
four grand children. Two of
the grandchildren a son and
daughter of the more or less
artist ~~son~~ ^{they} graduated as
Architects, and are today well
established in their profession

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to his father to locate in San Francisco where he intended to join the family.

Painting scenery he admitted, was not to his liking, and therefore decided to quit.

In San Francisco both father and son engaged in the business of manufacturing neckties, ~~and~~ The business prospered until the year 1929.

Only in the year 1929, Mr. K passed away, and due to the depression, the younger K had to liquidate the business. However, all of the members of their family

Typed

2784

Doctor Paul [unclear]
Antimette Jackson [unclear]

The biography of John Müller

John Müller, a native of
Bucharest, Roumania, was an
only son of a widowed mother.
His education was reported
to say the least. He not only
had the ~~best~~ ^{highest} academic education
but he also could speak
and write fluently, six languages
beside his own native Roumanian
language.

At the age of twenty-four
years, he became a clerk in

Page

one of the largest banks of
Pouchant and in the course
of about two years he rose
to the position of head of
head of the department of Foreign
Exchange.

The last world war,
however, caught him, as it
ever, in its grip; that is to
say, he was drafted into the
Roumanian army, despite the
fact that he was the only son
as well as the sole bread-
winner of his widowed
mother.

In due time, he was
sent to one of the trenches where

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he lay, mostly in mud and well nigh starvation, for eight months. During that time he contracted various physical ailments, but chiefly a chronic one of indigestion. He could retain absolutely nothing of any food that he ate, and eventually became almost a corpse.

Having given up hope of either release from the trench or for medical relief, he began to scheme how to escape from his predicament; and the

Page 4.

decided to desert ~~from~~ the army.
He could not, however, make
up his mind how or by what
means he might escape. After
considerable mental speculation,
he decided to take a chance
and attempt to fraternize with
some of the Russian soldiers,
who occupied an opposite
trench, ~~and~~ ~~by~~ means of tobacco
and various rations of food
which he pilfered from some
of his comrades, he succeeded
in ingratiating himself into
the good graces of a Russian Captain
and It was not long before he

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found himself within Russian territory and also with a Russian Captain's uniform on his back. Therefore ~~and~~ altho his movements through territory ~~was~~ slow, yet he succeeded, after about six months, ~~to reach~~ Vladivostok. His chief aid, of course, was the fact that he spoke the Russian language fluently, and ~~also~~ ~~had~~ various credentials forged, of course, with which his Russian benefactor provided him.

From Vladivostok he hitched-hiked to Harbin, and after many months walking and traveling through he

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secured passage upon a freighter bound for the United States.

In 1916 he landed in the United States at San Francisco, penniless and friendless. But one of Miller's type and background, both educational and social, immediately found himself surrounded by many friends, all of whom were of his own ~~country of~~ ^{nationality} ~~origin~~.

For a period of about three months he was provided with all the necessaries of life, and some measure of entertainment, and to all appearances

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he had fully recovered. There-
fore, the question confronted
his friends what occupation
he should embark upon. It
was out of the question for
him to do heavy physical
labor on account of his
delicacy. ^{Health} Each friend pro-
posed a different occupation
until one of them suggested
the securing of advice from
a lawyer, a Roumanian by
birth, who had not heard
of Miller.

After consulting with the
lawyer, the latter inquired

into John Miller's business experiences in the past which lead the former to the conclusion that the latter might secure a position in a bank. Thereupon the lawyer gave Miller a letter of introduction to the manager of a large San Francisco Bank, and the very next day he was at work as one of the many assistants in Foreign Exchange Department.

Miller's salary was only ninety dollars per month the first year the second year

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the bank paid him nine-five Dollars per month.

During his second year with the bank, the latter acquired ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ one of the large Eastern cities and the very manager who had given him employment was transferred to manage it. Thereupon Miller asked to also be transferred to the Eastern bank and his request was granted. His salary with the bank in the East was one hundred and five Dollars per month.

After about six months with the Eastern bank, another bank in that city offered Miller the chief clerkship of its foreign exchange department at a salary of ten thousand dollars a year. Needless to say, Miller immediately took up his new position, and for a period of two years held it with entire satisfaction to his employers as well as to his fellow

Page 7.

As soon as he was discharged by the government, Jacob married the divorcee and together they emigrated to the United States and settled in New York City.

In Roumania the telegraph system was, in Jacob's day, and for all that the writer knows to the contrary still is, a government monopoly. Therefore, having been discharged by reason of moral turpitude, Jacob not being capable of earning a living for himself and his wife by means of his profession, to say nothing of the disgrace he deliberately brought upon his own near and dear (Parents, Brothers, sisters, friends etc.), he had to leave the country.

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In the United States Jacob had to first familiarize himself with the English language (he had a smattering knowledge of it before leaving Bohemia). As soon as he did so, a Bohemian, who had befriended him, being a resident in New York City, succeeded in securing for him a position with the Great Eastern Railroad system of that city as a ticket seller and also a telegraph operator. Jacob's weekly wages at the beginning were nominal for the reason that he only worked extra shifts, sometimes two or three days a week, but after about one year he secured a permanent

night shift. The steady night-shift made possible for Jacob and his young wife to establish a nice home for themselves.

For ten long years Jacob stuck to that position, the hours of which were from ^{7:00 P.M.} ~~7:00 P.M.~~ ^{7:00 A.M.} ~~7:00 A.M.~~ until ^{7:00 P.M.} ~~7:00 P.M.~~ ^{7:00 A.M.} ~~7:00 A.M.~~ 1 clock A.M. and feeling that he could not continue it any longer and having saved up about two thousand dollars, he first resigned, and then told his wife that he had decided to establish himself in some business in California. He also told her that he selected San Francisco as their new place of residence.

← After disposing of such articles ~~which they~~^{as} could not readily and profitably ship ^{to} California, they left New York City.

Not having been a merchant, or knowing anything about mercantile matters, Jacob could not make up what business to engage in after he reached California, and his savings were disappearing fast. After a heart to heart talk with his wife, the latter suggested to him to forget business and apply for a position with one of the telegraph companies. After revolving the matter in his own head for

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about a week, he did apply for a position with a local telegraph company and, being an expert telegraph operator as well as possessing first class credentials he did not lose much time before he was engaged.

My grandfather said: "Thornmaker, stick to your post."

Jacob remained with the telegraph company until he reached the age of sixty-five years, and then he was retired on half pay.

never and despite the proper medical care and attention, he succumbed on account of a spontaneous attack of acute indigestion.

While an employee with a large salary he had himself well insured for the benefit of his mother who survived him and who still is residing in Bremen.

John Müller had fully intended to bring his mother to the United States, but in the words of one of our wise ancestors, "Man proposes and God disposes," or words to that effect.

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to him. But Jacob had an eye
for the fact he became interested
with, a married lady about
his own age, who was also one
of the Roumanian beauties.

On Roumanian the winter
is long and the days are short
and life for the idle is almost
idle humans, is rather monotonous.
Therefore, during the winter
months hardly or about passes
without one or two masquerade
balls where the elite regale. Dancing
shows with active accompaniment
and song. Dancing is mostly a
side recreation for the lovers or
the lovers, during which they make
appointments for clandestine meetings.

At all the masquerade balls may be found many of the rich and some government functionaries and such other who belong to neither class yet by some chance secure invitations and tickets for admission.

Jacob, being a government functionary, he could secure entry to any one of the many masquerade balls, and also secure tickets for a friend. To one of them Jacob contrived to invite the married lady who had often seen him pass her house. When passing the house, which was usually at a definite time of the day, if Jacob saw the lady at a window, he would raise his official cap, which was trimmed

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with ^a wide gold-braid, by way of greeting her. Needless to say that must have pleased the lady for she often bowed her head low in recognition of Jacob's greeting. We do not know what excuse the lady gave to her husband for absenting herself from home that evening but, according to Jacob's information, the lady did appear at the ball fully masked. At the ball she recognized her newly found friend by the costume he wore, a description of which was contained in the invitation he had contrived to place in her possession.

There is an old proverb in Roumania to the effect that, if a breakable vessel is used

after enough, it will somehow
break after a certain length of
time. And so it was with the
unnamed lady's erstwhile
happy home. That is to say,
the oftener she met Jacob, the
more enamored she became of
him and vice versa, and in due
time she and her husband se-
parated. That event cost Jacob
his government position, as the
lady's husband filed charges
against him with the govern-
ment. In due time, also, the
lady's husband secured a divorce
and the custody of their one child.
Not long after the divorce, the
government discharged Jacob
from his, practically, life-job.

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